



IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2672

#13

Refile  
9.14.01

APPLICANT: Konstantine Iourcha et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/371,972

FILING DATE: August 10, 1999

TITLE: System and Method for Rasterizing Primitives Using  
Direct Interpolation

EXAMINER: Motilewa A. Good-Johnson

ART UNIT NO.: 2672

ATTY.DKT.NO.: PA1774 US (as amended)

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date printed below:

Date: 9/5/01

*Susan Yee*  
Susan Yee

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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**Response to Informality Regarding Payment of Fees**

Sir:

In response to the Informality Regarding Payment of Fee mailed August 27, 2001 (paper #12), Applicants submit the amendment was timely filed. The Office Action (paper #8) was mailed on May 4, 2001 with a shorten statutory period for reply set to expire 3 months from the mailing date (i.e., August 5, 2001). Subsequently, a Response was filed with a certificate of mailing dated July 19, 2001, within the 3 month time period to respond. Copies of the Informality Regarding Payment of Fee, the Response,

and the cover sheet of the Office Action showing the mailing date are enclosed for your review.

Applicants request that the Informality Regarding Payment of Fee be withdrawn and that the Response mailed July 19, 2001 be entered. Any questions or comments should be directed to Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Konstantine Iourcha et al.

Date: 9/5/01

By: Susan Yee

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

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Washington, D.C. 20231

SEARCH NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
097371-572	06/10/00	TOURISHA	K 36594-118

WM21/0827

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EXAMINER	
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2622 12	
DATE MAILED:	

08/27/01

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INFORMALITY RE PAYMENT OF FEE

The informality regarding the payment of the fee in connection with  the original filing fee  the amendment filed 7-23-01 is indicated below.

**A. FEE DUE**

1.  The amendment is considered incomplete in that the funds in Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ are insufficient to cover the entire fee due. The balance is due within the period set below.
2.  The amendment is considered an incomplete response, in that payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is insufficient to cover the claims as shown in the attached Patent Application Fee Determination Record. Remittance is due within the period set below.
3.  The amendment has not been entered, since applicant has failed to remit (or authorize charge to a Deposit Account) the fee as indicated. Remittance or authorization is due within the period set below.
4.  The filing fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ submitted in this application is insufficient. A balance of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is due for additional claims.

**5.  EXT OF TIME (2 MONTH)**

APPLICANT IS GIVEN THE REMAINDER OF THE SET PERIOD FOR RESPONSE, OR ONE (1) MONTH FROM THE DATE OF THIS LETTER, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, WITHIN WHICH TO REMIT THE FEE OF \$ 390.00

**B. EXCESS PAYMENT:**

5.  It is noted that payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is in excess of the amount necessary to cover the claims now in the application. See the attached Patent Application Fee Determination Record.

This matter of refund or credit to your account is being referred to the Finance Officer, for his consideration.

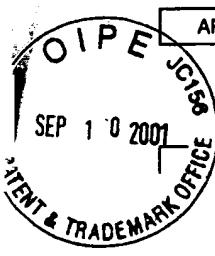
*B. D. DeLoach*  
CLERK OF GROUP

09/371,972 (Iourcha 1/21)



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Washington, D.C. 20231



APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/371,972 08/10/99 IOURCHA

K 3594-US

WM02/0504

EXAMINER

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GOOD JOHNSON, M

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2672

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05/04/01

FENWICK & WEST LLP.

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Action: 3 Mo Response Due: 8/4/2001  
w/ 1 Mo. Ext. Due: 9/4/2001  
1/2 Mo. Ext. Due: 10/4/2001  
w/ 3 Mo. Ext. Due: 11/4/2001  
Due:

Docketed By: JCY Date: 5/22/2001  
Atty Checked & Initialed: SM 5/23/01

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Konstantine Iourcha et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/371,972

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EXAMINER: Motilewa A. Good-Johnson

ART UNIT NO.: 2672

ATTY.DKT.NO.: PA1774 US (as amended)

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Date: 7/19/01

Susan Yee  
Susan Yee

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

**Response to Restriction Requirement**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 4, 2001 (paper #8), Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

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In the Claims:

Please remove claims 19-22 from examination without prejudice.

REMARKS

In the Office Action of May 4, 2001, the Examiner required restriction of prosecution to one of the following inventions: Group I containing claims 1-18, 23-27 and Group II containing claims 19-22. In response, Applicants are provisionally electing Group I with traverse.

To require election/restriction under MPEP § 806.05(d), "The examiner must show, by way of example, that one of the subcombinations has utility other than the disclosed combination" (see MPEP § 806.05(d)). Applicants submit that the election/restriction requirement here is improper because the Examiner failed to show that the inventions in Groups I and II have separate utilities.

Specifically in Group I, claims 1-7, 9-12 and 16-18, are drawn to a method of *rendering a graphic primitive*. Claim 8 is drawn to an electronically-readable medium storing a program for permitting a computer to perform the method as described in claim 1. Claim 13 is drawn to an electronically-readable medium storing a program for permitting a computer to perform the method as described in claim 9. Claim 14 or 15 is drawn to a system for *rendering a graphic primitive*. It should be noted that *both claims 14 and 15 recite, inter alia, an interpolation engine, which is the claimed invention in Group II*. Claims 23-26 are drawn to a method of generating interpolated values for use in *rendering a graphic primitive*. Claim 27 is drawn to an electronically-

readable medium storing a program for permitting a computer to perform the method as described in claim 23.

In Group II, claims 19-22 are drawn to an *interpolation engine* for use in a graphic system. The interpolation engine comprises a ratio pipe configured to a ratio value associated with a point in a graphic primitive or in an edge of the graphic primitive and a blending pipe configured to output interpolated values of texture coordinates. It should be noted that the interpolated values of texture coordinates generated by the interpolation engine are used to *determine values of any interior point within a graphic primitive* (see the Specification, page 14, lines 24-25; page 20, lines 3-5 and lines 12-14; page 20, line 20 – page 21, line 2; and page 21, lines 8-13). It should also be noted that the *interpolation engine* in claims 19-22 of Group II is recited as an element in claims 14 and 15 of Group I.

Applicants submit that even though the claims in Group I and Group II cover different scope and aspect of the present invention, they are directed to *a common inventive effort or concept*, that is, to use “direct interpolation to generate a value for any point in a graphic primitive without necessarily traversing other portions of the primitive” (see the Specification, page 5, lines 6-8). In addition, the claims in Group I and Group II have *a common utility*, that is, to interpolate “values in primitives without requiring separate hardware for the setup and rasterization stages” (see the Specification, page 5, lines 5-6). Furthermore, Applicants submit that the examination of the claims in Groups I and II does not require different fields of search.

To support the election/restriction requirement, the Examiner stated in the Office Action that "invention I has separate utility such as merging or overlaying video signals to generate a composite graphic image" and "invention II has separate utility such as scaling of video image signals for a scaled graphic image." Applicants respectfully traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that the different functions performed by the claims in Group I and Group II are not separate utilities. Rather, they reflect *different aspects of a common utility* in the present invention, that is, to interpolate "values in graphic primitives without requiring separate hardware for the setup and rasterization stages" (see the Specification, page 5, lines 5-6).

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the election/restriction requirement be withdrawn upon reconsideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Konstantine Iourcha et al.

Date: 7/1/01

By: Susan Yee

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WM21/0827

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EXAMINER	
WILLIAM JOHNSON	PAPER NUMBER
12	

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*W. Bentler*  
CLERK OF GROUP